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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/758,679 | 01/15/2004 | Jeremy E. Dahl | 005950-845 | 4958 |

21839 7590 10/10/2006

BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC
POST OFFICE BOX 1404
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404

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| EXAMINER |
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VENCI, DAVID J

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1641

DATE MAILED: 10/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

12

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/758,679 | Applicant(s) DAHL ET AL. | |
| | Examiner David J. Venci | Art Unit 1641 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on August 29, 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 1641

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-28, drawn to a diamondoid label, classified in class 568/818, for example.
- II. Claims 29-40, drawn to a method using a diamondoid label, classified in class 117/2, for example.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use.¹ The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. See MPEP § 806.05(h). In the instant case, the product of Invention I can be used in a materially different process, such as a surface coating process.

Examination burden is established because the scope of prior art search required for Group I does not appear coextensive with the scope of prior art search required for Group II. For example, a search for the labeling step of Invention II does not appear to require a search for the synthetic processes of Group I.

Applicant is advised that a complete reply to this requirement must include: (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even if the requirement is traversed² (37 CFR 1.143), and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

¹ Examiner requires restriction between product and process claims. Where Applicant elects to prosecute claims directed to a product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, Examiner will consider withdrawing the instant restriction requirement and rejoining non-elected, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claims (*i.e.*, all the process claims must include all the limitations of the allowable product claims). Examiner will not rejoin non-elected, withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with the allowable product claims. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Thus, where Applicant elects to prosecute claims directed to a product, Examiner advises Applicant to continually amend the non-elected, withdrawn process claims during prosecution to require all the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder. Upon rejoinder, Examiner will fully examine the rejoined process claims in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104 for compliance with all criteria for patentability, including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Examiner further advises Applicant that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where Examiner withdraws the restriction requirement before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

² Applicant may elect an invention or species with traverse or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, Applicant must elect with traverse. Should Applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, Applicant should

Art Unit: 1641

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J. Venci whose telephone number is 571-272-2879. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00 - 16:30 (EST). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on 571-272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


LONG V. LE 10/01/08
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

David J Venci
Examiner
Art Unit 1641

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clearly admit on the record, or submit or identify evidence on the record that the inventions or species are obvious variants. If Examiner finds one Inventions unpatentable over the prior art, Examiner may use the evidence or admission of record to reject other inventions under 35 U.S.C.103(a).